

Sports News

AFROTC wins Commander's Cup trophy



PHOTOS BY CADET 3RD CLASS ARTHUR MOREAU

University of Alaska Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets low crawl under some netting as part of a confidence course during Saturday's Commander's Cup competition against Army ROTC cadets from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

By Cadet Maj. Tyler Cisneros
UAA AFROTC Cadet

The men and women of the University of Alaska Anchorage's Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps beat their competitors from the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Army ROTC detachment in the fourth-annual Commander's Cup at Elmendorf Oct. 9.

For the last four years, Anchorage and Fairbanks ROTC programs have been competing against each other, in alternating locations, to see which detachment would win the coveted Commander's Cup Trophy and bragging rights.

This year's competition, hosted by the UAA ROTC program, was comprised of six categories: volleyball, basketball, calvin ball, dodge ball, bridge building and the confidence course. In the event of a tie, a test of memory was the deciding factor for the competition.

The Air Force took a commanding lead early in the competition, winning the first two events. It was a well-fought battle, but the AFROTC won volleyball in two straight sets, 30-9 and 30-17.

The basketball team was also able to down the Army 25-18.

After losing the first two events, the Army was quick to respond in an energized game of dodge ball, winning the first two games in a best-of-three series.

Calvin ball was the next event to challenge the two rivals. The Air Force managed to fly their way to a 7-3 victory over the Army.

UAA's slow start in the bridge building event opened the door for UAF to win the event. This was a new event to the competition but the Army cadets proved very adept at it.

The last event of the day was the confidence course. This would be UAF's last chance to tie UAA in the competition.

Each detachment formed a team comprised of six members that went on to participate in seven obstacles in the confidence course.

The team who finished all seven challenges together in the best time would win the event.

The Army managed to finish the course in an astounding 5:01. However, the Air Force cadets maneuvered their way through the course in 4:51, which was 10 seconds faster than UAF.

Proving triumphant in this final event ensured that the UAA Air Force ROTC was victorious over UAF Army ROTC in the 2004 Commander's Cup.

The trophy is now on display at the Detachment 001 Office in Anchorage.

For questions about the UAA ROTC program, call Capt. Michelle Geraci at 264-7465.



Above: UAA Air Force ROTC cadets race over hurdles under the watchful eye of spotters. The team finished the course in 4:51.

Left: Using only arm power, cadets race through the overhead bars. The Air Force won the confidence course competition with a time 10 seconds faster than the Army.